

Maarit Suomi-Väänänen (MA) works as filmmaker and media artist. Her work also encompasses photography and installations. Praised as fascinating and open to a multitude of interpretations, Suomi-Väänänen's award-winning works are shown in exhibitions, at festivals and on TV as well as on the Internet and at happenings. She belongs to the Vidéotheque Nomade (BE), Ouat Media (CA) and AV-arkki (FI). Maarit lives in Helsinki and works with an artist's stipendium granted by the Finnish Cultural Foundation. www.maaritsuomi.fi

FILM AND VIDEO INSTALLATIONS, experimental short films

PÖHEIKÖN HÖNKÄ In a Musty, Misty Thicket 2011, short film / installation with objects

installation Mänttä Art Festival 12.6.-31.8.2011, curator: Otso Kantokorpi

festivals Grand Detour, Portland, USA 11.2011 + retro

Seanahk Art Festival, Estonia, Haapsalu July 2011, curator: Jaan Toomik

TV YLE Finnish Broadcasting Company, Uusi Kino, 2012-

MINISPECTACLES: touché, douche and or souche 3x1min 2010, original name: koskee, korpee, sorsii

installation Culture Tram 7, Helsinki 4.2011 | ATA Artists Television Access, Window Gallery San Francisco 10.2011 |

Biennale d'art contemporain de Bourges, Bandits Mages, FR 11.2010

festivals Clermond-Ferrand Short FF Market Nordic Film Foundations | IDFA Amsterdam | Ismailia, competition,

Egypt | One Minute FF Aarau, Switzerland | Kölner Filmhaus, Germany 2010 | Gallery 3h&k, Pori FIN

UP AND ABOUT AGAIN 10min 2009, original name: Jalkeilla Taas. 100 venues in 22 countries.

visual arts Solo exhibition: WARC gallery Toronto Canada 29.10.-27.11.2011

Lorenzo Jovanotti, Tour of Stadium Concerts, spring 2011, visual projection | Videoart at hospital FIN

Gallery Alkovi, auto_art_screening, P-underground Helsinki, curator Eero Yli-Vakkuri |

Virserum Konsthall, Sweden, Tales from the forest, 9.5.-5.12.2010 (+Bill Viola+Eija-Liisa Ahtila etc)

LOOP – the platform for video art Barcelona Spain 12.-22.5.2010, curator Anni Venäläinen

Exhibition Centre TR1 Festart01 installation 13.2.-14.3.2010 + screening Tampere FF Finland

Solo exhibition: Galerie Sans Nom, Moncton, Canada 30.10.-11.12.2009

Screening at Reykjavik Art Museum, Visual Art Magazine Rafskinna and Nordisk Panorama 9.2009

May 2009 Pori Art Museum, Night of the Museum + Publication of DVD, FRAME project room

Int Video Festival Videomedeja, Museum of Contemporary Art of Vojvodina Serbia 12.2009

Directors Lounge Urban Research: Gallery Meinblau+Magistrale Berlin+PAm Sennigallia Italy

Bandits-Mages, Bourges, France 5.2009 | Vidéotheque Nomade Brussels: Charleroi + Recyclart

Galleria Forssan tori 9-27.2.2010 + Helsinki: MoA 5.2009 + Art Fair Suomi 10.2009

TV Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE (14.11.2010 Teema)

festivals In the Palace Bulgaria, market 6.11 | Cine Martiko Ghent, Belgium 7.11 | Montreal Underground

FF, Ca 5.11 | Video Formes, Clermont-Ferrand France 3.2011 | Oldenburg Short Film Days, DE 11.10

Cairo Video Art & Experimental FF, Egypt 9.2010 | medimed Euro- Mediterranean Barcelona |

Bay Street FF, Thunder Bay, Canada 9.2010 | REGARD competition, Chicoutimi Canada 3.2010 |

L'Etrange Festival Competition, Paris | Off-Courts Festival - competition, Trouville 9.2009

Rooftop Films Summer Series, New York 5.6.2010 Kulturhuset Stockholm REX Exp. FF, Sweden 4.10

Cultuur & Cinema, Filmhuis Den Haag, NL 23.3.10 + Liigalaksma Film Festival EST 16-17.7.2010 (all films)

AV-arkki on Tour: Tampere FF 3.2010 | Washington Film Institute, Embassy of Finland 24.6.2010

Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, Montréal Canada 7-18.09 Best Short Film in the Int. Selection

IDFA Documentary Film Festival - Paradoxs programme Amsterdam The Netherlands 11.2009

Impakt : Brasilia Belo Horizonte - Venue Arte.mov Festival + Salvador + Porto Alegre + Belem 11.2009

Open Air Event and Urban Screen, Utrecht, Netherlands 9.2010 | Göteborg FF, Sweden 1.2010

Kassel Documentary Film & Video Festival 10.-15.11.2009 | competitions: Curtocircuito 09, Santiago de

Compostela, Spain 10.-17.10.2009 | Festival de Internacional Filmets Badalona, Barcelona 11.2009

ATA San Francisco 2009 + La Enana Marron Madrid 4.-7.3.2010 + Millennium Film New York 20.2.2010

competitions: Arctic & Fabulous FF, Jyväskylä Finland | Uppsala Short FF Sweden + Milan FF

France: Festival Silhouette, Paris & Festival international du film d'Amiens, France 11.2009

25 FPS Zagreb Croatia 22.-27.9.2009 + Sarajevo Film Festival, Bosnia and Herzegovina 12-20.8.

CAMBOfest, Cambodia 12.2009 & Thai Short Film and Video, Competition, Bangkok 21.-23.8.2009

Nordisk Film Festival 2009, Fredrikshavn, Denmark + Rauma Blue Sea Film Festival, Finland 8.09

Curtas Vila do Conde Int Film Festival, Portugal 4.-12.7.2009 | VerdensKulturCentretCopenhagen

2009: Just For Laughs Festival –Competition, Montreal | Worldwide Short Film Festival Toronto

Cannes Film Festival, France, Scandinavian Short Films Screening, Short Film Corner 5.2009

screenings Doc Lounge |Punk evenings| FinlandsInstitutet, Stockholm+ tour| Kosmoramaclub|AV-arkkiforKIDS|Pinnanalta

SALTY SNOW, 8min 2007 Exp. Short Film Suolaista Lunta

exhibitions Virka Gallery, Helsinki City Hall, Finland 22.5.-30.8.2009 | Solo: Lönnström Art Museum, Rauma,

Finland 14.6.-4.9.2008 | Group Exhibition – Contemporary Art Festival, Khanty-Mansiysk, West-Siberia

1.-30.6.2007 | VIEW – Media Art Festival, Solo:CableGallery, Helsinki, Finland 2.-27.2.2007

screenings Nomadic Video Library Brussels Belgium | Filmhuis Den Haag, Holland 2010 | Ignition New Media and

Film Festival Australia 2009 | VerdensKulturCentret, Copenhagen 26.3.2009 | Night at the Indies,

Toronto 25.3.2009 | Rostock, Nacht der Kultur, Germany 10.2008 | Helsinki Art Fair 10.2008 | WWF –

New Delhi, India, Film Library | RAW Brooklyn, New York 11.2007 | Videoformes, Clermont-Ferrand,

France 3.2008 | AmbiENT Festival, Knot point, Brescia, Italy | FOXdays Helsinki 11.2007 | Media Art

Festival, Siberia | Bay Street FF, Thunder Bay, Canada | CFC WSFF, Toronto, Canada 6.2007

tv and streaming: Movieola – Short Film Channel, Canada AND Finnish Broadcasting Comp. YLE 2007-10

compilation Flux-screening vol2 2007 Espoo, Finland | SIMULTAN Timisoara, Romania | Vertical Festival Spain

A BIT SCARY REALLY.... 7min 2005 Experimental Docu-Comedy, vähän niinku pelottavaa...

- web* EYE Film Institute NL collection <http://preview.instantcinema.org/eye/379/A-bit-scary-really>
www.undergroundfilm.com, San Francisco, USA (site is closed by now)
- installation* Virserum Konsthall, Sweden 9.5.-5.12.2010 | MadCat Women's FF, San Francisco 1.-30.9.2007 | Virka Gallery, Helsinki City Hall, Finland 22.5.-30.8.2009 | Nomadic Video Library Brussels
- festivals* Filmhuis Den Haag, Holland 2010 | Bay Street FF, Thunder Bay, Canada | Colchester International FF Signals, Great-Britain 10.2007 | WWF – New Delhi, India, Film and Documentary Library | Kulczyk Foundation, Poznan, Poland 07 | Love&Anarchy, Helsinki, Finland 9.2007 | San Giò Festival, Verona, Italy 7.2007 | Quartet - 40 years jubilee screening of Helsinki Arts Association 9.2007
Museum van Hedendaagse Kunst Antwerpen, Belgium 25.2.2007 (IDFA screening)
IDFA International Documentary Film Festival | Paradocs Amsterdam 2006
Int. Fideo and Vilm Festival, Pärnu Estonia 11.2006 | Courtisane Festival, Ghent Belgium 4.2006, Gallery Leena Kuumola's Film-Event, Helsinki 12.2005 | WIEV and FOXdays Festivals in Helsinki
- compilations* AV-arkki tour06 – compilation 2006: Uppsala Int. Short FF Sweden | FORUM BOX -gallery, videoroom, Helsinki, Finland 5.2006 | Tampere FF, Finland | LOOP: The Place for Video Art Lovers, Barcelona, Spain | Perf06 gallery 3H+K, Pori | Breaking The Ice, Kunstmuseum Bonn
VideoNight compilation 2005, curated by ArtEast Foundation Romania, Jozsef Bartha | Alter-Native Short FF, Fortress Gallery, Targu Mures | Museum of Modern Art, Bucharest, Romania

SWAN SONG 6min 2004 Experimental Film 2004

- exhibitions* Aquarelle Biennale, Ciurlionis Art Museum, Kaunas Lithuania 7-8.2008 | Gallerii Deco, Tallinn 2004
- + tv Movieola – Short Film Channel, Canada | tv-tv Copenhagen, Denmark 24.7.06
- screenings* Filmhuis Den Haag, Holland 2010 | Le 4e`me Festival de films underground de Montreal MUFF, Canada 14.-16.5.2009 | Night at the Indies, Toronto, Canada 25.3.2009 | Rostock, Nacht der Kultur, Germany 18.10.2008 | WWF – New Delhi, India, Film and Documentary Library | Cartes Flux - screening, 12.2005, 3.2006 | Filmklubb Video Lick, Gothenburg, Sweden 3.2005 | VIEW –Helsinki 2.2005 | Foxdays, Gallery Leena Kuumola and MuuGallery 2004 Helsinki

CHANGING: MASUZYO and TASINTHA, 2x30min 1996 community theatre in Finland/Zambia
National Broadcasting Company YLE TV 1, 1996, (co-operational Work)

STONES, 15min 1993 Experimental Dance Film (co-operational Work) MuuMediaFestival | Fox Days 1994

s/v ESTELLE, 25min documentary 1993 (cinematography, in co-operation script, edit)
Tampere Film Festival, national competition and Fox days

PHOTOS, INSTALLATIONS

Middletons - Photos from California | Tolppaset – valokuvia Kaliforniasta

Solo Exhibition: Lönnström Art Museum, Rauma, Finland 14.6.-4.9.2008 and e-cards

Production House Medusa, Office Turku, permanent installation | www.medusa.fi

MoA Festival Helsinki, 12.-24.5.2009 + Private Collection

nameless smoke and light installation, Pori Art Generator Space, Finland 6.-18.7.2007

ANONYMOUS black-and-white Photo Triptych 2005

Firenze Biennale of Contemporary Art, Italy 12.2005

European Commission "Finnish photography" by Liz Wells, Reader in Photography 11.2006

ANONYMOUS black-and-white Photo Diptych 2004

Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma, Rear Window, Helsinki, Finland, 11.2004

SOMEBODY-ANYBODY-NOBODY Site-Specific ANATOOMIKUM (co-Oper Work), Tartu Estonia, 10.99

ZOOM Borey Art Gallery, St. Petersburg Russia 2.1999 | Photocenter Peri, Turku, Finland, 6-7.1999

NORTHERN KNOTS Installation (photos, lights and slides) on Board of s/v Estelle, Amsterdam

BANGLADESH BY WAY OF HAND black-and-white Photo Exhibition Helsinki, Tampere, Turku, Oulu
Fair Trade Shop Juuttiputiikki, Oulu, Finland 15.5.-15.6.2011

AWARDS, GRANTS

2011 One year working grant, Finnish Cultural Foundation

2010 Audience Award for all my films, KYLLÄ Finnish Film Festival, Filmhuis Den Haag, Netherlands

2009 Best Short Film in the International Selection, Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, Montréal Canada

2008 The Diploma of Honour, Aquarelle Biennale, Kaunas Lithuania

2005 The Diploma of Honour of Photo Art, Firenze Biennale of Contemporary Art, Italy

1993 The Diploma of Honour, Nordic Council of Ministers, Copenhagen Denmark

2010 Arts Council of Finland | EMARE residency in France | Finnish Film Foundation | AVEK

2009-5 Arts Council of Finland, Finnish Film Foundation, AVEK, Finnish Cultural Foundation

2003-4 Women's Cultural Foundation, Arts Council of Finland, Visual Artist Copyright Society, AVEK, ITU

OTHERS: 2010 AV-arkki Board member + Fox Days Jury member | State Art Collection Committee 2005-07 | Film Jurys 05-06: The Oscar Finland | Viitasaari Film Week Award | Jussi Award pre selection (Finnish Oscars) | Memberships: SET, Muu, AV-arkki | 2008 MA - **Master of Art**, University of Art and Design

ON PUBLICATIONS selected own texts

more about articles: <http://www.maaritsuomi.fi>

- Own text *Smell of Dark*. The photographic book of PUNK by Juha-Pekka Inkinen. Publisher Like, 2009.
- *One picture can be too many*. Voima culture newspaper 5.2007. Katse - photo culture www.katse.org

critics

- Huvustadsbladet 18.6.11 "Kaotiska och rörande familjerelationer" Misty, Musty writer: Leena Kuumola
- Up And About Again at FNC Montréal, Vol 13 Issue 12, writer critic Randolph Jordan
http://www.offscreen.com/biblio/pages/essays/festival_nouveau_cinema_2009/
- Up And About Again at Idfa Daily-DagKrant Amsterdam 26.11.2009. Writer: film critic Niels Bakker
- up coming: *Up And About Again*, New Currents Shorts - Sarajevo FF. Writer film critic Patricija Malicev, main newspaper Delo, Slovenia
- Solo exhibition at Lönnström Art Museum. Published at Satakunnan kansa 17.6.2008, writer H-R Kuisma.
- *Not everyone can be a mother*. Salty Snow, at TV 1, Uusi Kino. Published at Aamulehti, Satakunnan kansa ja Keski-Uusimaa 15.5.2007, writer Jukka Kangasjärvi.
- *Media artists yearn for home and away from there*. Salty Snow, solo exhibition at VIEW Festival. Helsingin Sanomat 23.2.2007, writer Kaisa Heinänen.
- *Experimenten met werkelijkheid*. a bit scary really... IDFA screening Museum van Hedendaagse Kunst Antwerpen. Writer Michiel van Opstal, NL, publisher www.tubelight.nl nro 48, 1.1.2007.
- *a bit scary really....* Kortfilm.be, writer Sven de Schutter, Belgium.
- *About the naturalness of making a baby*. Salty Snow, VIEW07 Catalogue, writer A Vänskä. Pub: AV-arkki.
- *a bit scary really...* IDFA daily-magazine, 1.12.2007 writer Niels J. Bakker. Publisher International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam, Hollanti.
- Swansong, TAIDE-magazine nro 1 2006, writer Pirjetta Brander.
- Swansong, Sirp Cultural Journal Tallinn, 17.9.2004, writer Rainer Vilumaa, Estonia.
- zoom, Maximka Art Magazine-St. Petersburg, 3.1999, writer Nadezda Spil, Russia.
- From Bangladesh by Hand, Kainuun Sanomat 31.7.1991, writer Pirjo Immonen
- Kaleva 17.1.1991, writer Markku Heikkilä

articles

- Ilkka, Mänttä Art Festival 12.6.2011
- interviews: Egyptian TV 2 and Niles Channel. Local radio Belgees Connection, Ismailia. Oct 2010
- Canadian Sanomat 29.9.2010, Up And About Again at Thunder Bay FF. writer Minna Ollikainen
- Opening of the Galleria Forssan Tori. Kauppalehti (business newspaper) 11.2.2010 writer: Harri Oinonen
- UAAA Traveling. Publisher: The Finnish News Agency. Writer cultural journalist Reetta Ravi, 20.11.2009
- UAAA at Arctic and Fabulous Film Festival, Finland, writer Tero Karjalainen, Keski-suomalainen 20.11.2009
- Impakt on the Move (Brazil): http://www.impakt.nl/index.php/blog/on_the_move
- The journal of underground film, ATA 22.10.2009, San Francisco. <http://www.badlit.com/?p=2773>
- Live radio interview: Radio J, 93.5 FM. Interviewer: Marc Xavier Leblanc. 29.10.2009, Canada, NB
- Radio Canada, région Acadie. UAAA in the exhibition at Galerie Sans Nom, Moncton, Canada. 30.10.2009
- Vjesnik 29.9.2009 (daily newspaper in Croatia), *Up And About Again* in the 25fps Experimental Film Festival, Zagreb. Writer film critic: Bozidar Trkulja
- *Up And About Again* in Toronto WSFF Competition. STT Finnish News Agency. Newspapers in Finland 6.200
- Text on DVD about *Up And About Again* written by curator Marita Muukkonen
- News about diploma of Kaunas Aquarelle Biennale was published on August 2008 at Helsingin Sanomat, Satakunnan kansa, Savon Sanomat, Kaleva (The Finnish News Agency, STT)
- Exhibition at Lönnström Art Museum, published at Länsi-Suomi 13.6.2008 writer Anni Teppo
- *Salty Snow*. Simpukka magazine 2.2007, writer Anne Lindfors.
- *Media Art at the world*. Shortly AVEK magazine 16.10.2006
- Articles about censorship and award at Firenze Biennale, published at HS, AL, Keski-suomalainen
- *nameless, smoke-light installation*. Satakunnan Kansa 6.7.2007, writer Lili Wessman
- *Salty Snow* at WWSFF festival at Toronto. Writer Liz Clayton. Publisher Eye Week Toronto June 07 2007
- From Bangladesh by Hand – photo exhibition at Oulu 1991. Kansan Tahto, writer Petri Laukka.

catalogues

- *In a Musty, Misty Thicket*, Mänttä Art Festival. Curator: Otso Kantokorpi. June 2011
- Finnish Documentary Films at IDFA 2010. Publisher: Finnish Film Foundation.
- Works on many film and media art festival catalogues, like Sarajevo Film Festival, Bandits-Mages, Cartes Flux, Tampere Film Festival, VIEW-Media Art Festival catalogues 2004- , IDFA Amsterdam, WWSFF Toronto, Courtisane Belgium, Bay Street Film Festival Kanada, MadCat San Francisco
- *Salty Snow* and *Up and About Again* trailer at catalogue TAIDE2008 Helsinki Art Fair.
- *Swan Song* Baltic Bridges – Catalogue Kaunas Aquarelle Biennale 2008. Publ: Arts Assoc of Lithuania.
- Anonymous triptych, Firenze Biennalen catalogue 2005

works on collections

- On EYE Film Institute Netherlands collection on Instant Cinema
- Lönnström Art Museum, Rauma, Finland | Digital Production Company Medusa, Finland | undergroundfilm.com, San Francisco (2005-07) | Private collection (ArtFairSuomi) | Seashell Assoc.

links www.maaritsuomi.fi www.av-arkki.fi www.ouatmedia.com www.imdb.com www.elonet.fi www.6870.be

Maarit Suomi-Väänänen

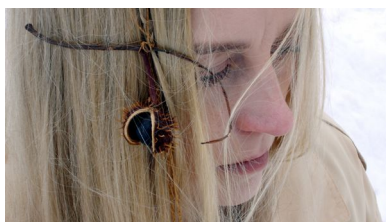
In a Musty, Misty Thicket 2011



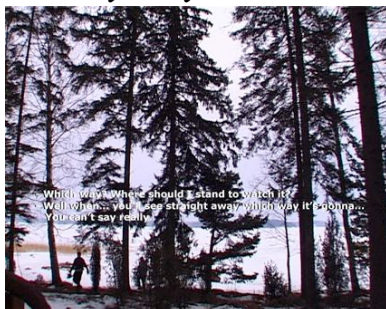
Up And About Again 2009



SALTY SNOW 2007



a bit scary really... 2005



SWAN SONG 2004



ANONYMOUS 2004, 2005



selected works 2004-2009 / on publications

"Maarit Suomi Väänänen's absolutely absurd film is depicting scenes between mother and daughter in an environment where the Stone Age is joining with some urban elements. Nina Renvall's excessively realistic presentation as Likka is irresistible, like Appe Vanajas in the role of Pik Mama..." Leena Kuumola, Huvustadsbladet 18.6.2011

**- Best short film in the International Selection - award
Festival du nouveau cinema, Montreal, Canada 2009
- Audience Award for all film and video works,
Filmhuis Den Haag, the Netherlands 2010**

"On the horizon, a sweet graceless creature appears, a Datsun 100A, propelled by a cloud of dust. The world grows broader, the journey continues bouncing and striving forward in an insanely rugged, rocky world... The main character's appearance in the film calls out: Look at me, look at me! This creature, covered in snow and struggling sightlessly forward, is at once beginning a life, and one who has seen it all... Manipulation of time has been put to skillful use as an effect.... The dialogue flows smoothly between the different parts, both in terms of structure, and of sound and content." curator Marita Muukkonen, FRAME Finnish Fund for Art Exchange

"Very daring, to cast a car as the leading figure. But never be surprised with Finnish director Maarit Suomi-Väänänen... Unbearable? Not in the least. Suomi-Väänänen brings the film with typical Finnish humour: very dry and with a sharp bite. Thus she makes you smile." Niels Bakker, Amsterdam IDFA daily 26.11.2009

"... Suomi-Väänänen's film conveys a strong atmosphere. The beautiful music of Tapani Rinne and Verner Lummi is peaceful and floating, it builds an ambience of sorrow..." Kaisa Heinänen, HS 23.2.2007

"... The imagery is beautiful but also so faceted that it could, and does, awaken a multitude of feelings.

Salty Snow has been selected for Toronto's Worldwide Short Film Festival. Held in June, the festival is the largest of its kind in North America...

Jukka Kangasjärvi at Aamulehti, Satakunnan kansa and KUT 15.5.2007

"...Maarit Suomi-Väänänen makes a hilarious show of this 7 minute film, because of the camera position and bizarre dialogue that develops between the couple...The funniest is the end shot, when the tree has finally fallen down. Niels J. Bakker, Amsterdam IDFA daily 1.12.2006

"... In *A bit scary really...* (2005) from Maarit Suomi-Väänänen, the camera is on a tripod and doesn't move. What is on camera is great and dramatic slapstick." Michiel van Opstal, www.tubelight.nl 1.1.2006

The diploma of honour by the international jury at Kaunas Agualelle Biennale, Lithuania 2008

"... The work demonstrating the greatest maturity and insight, though, is *Swan Song*, a video piece by Maarit Suomi from Helsinki, Finland. Suomi's prelude to the classic tale *Ugly Duckling* shows her to be an experienced filmmaker with an original grasp of her artistic medium..."

Rainer Vilumaa, estonian culture magazine SIRP 17.9.2004

"Maarit Suomi's *Swan Song* provides us with an update to our dusty concept of our national bird... Her imagery is painterly and aesthetic, with a dream-like quality that gives us an alienated view of reality... The swans appear in the video as if in slow motion, in a moving picture. Even the most wretched aspects of the animals' family life appear noble and sublime within this framework..." Pirjetta Brander, Taide 1.2006

Anonymous was awarded at Firenze Biennale, Italy 2005

"... Maarit Suomi-Väänänen's photographs strike me as exceptionally perceptive and topical. Highly composed in both form and content, they appeal to the intellect. By juxtaposing antithetical visual and philosophical elements, the pieces challenge our views in an unbiased yet suggestive manner...." Leena Saraste PhD, researcher, photographer